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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

THE TREASURER,

OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF RUMNEY,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1877.



PLYMOUTH, N. H.:

KIMBALL & FLANDERS, BOOK PRINTERS,

1877.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

			DR.
March 4, 1876,	To cash in the treasury,		348 16
21,	of O. W. Stevens Collector,		550 00
April 1,	“ “ “ “		200 00
20,	H. W. Herbert “ of 1874,		85 00
21,	C. B. Simpson, Town Farm		
	sales,		273 00
May 14,	on Timothy Harris note,		10 90
June 3,	of O. D. Doe, on same,		9 88
3,	O. W. Stevens, Collector		
	1875,		500 00
July 11,	J. W. Pease, “		90 00
Aug. 1,	on Nuttings note and interest,		5 70
21,	of J. W. Pease, Collector,		275 00
26,	“ “ “ “		235 00
Sept. 1,	on John Watts note,		20 00
2,	of J. W. Pease, Collector,		150 00
13,	same,		225 00
23,	same,		140 00
25,	O. W. Stevens, Collector		
	1875,		256 53
Oct. 28,	J. W. Pease, Collector,		325 00
Nov. 7,	C. B. Simpson, Town Farm,		13 35
17,	J. W. Pease, Collector,		500 00
30,	same,		900 00
Dec. 7,	same,		300 00
18,	Andrew Tyman on note,		165 55
20,	J. W. Pease, Collector,		425 00
Jan. 1, 1877,	Rail Road tax,		269 67
	Savings Bank tax,		372 61
	Literary Fund tax.		121 05

Jan. 12, 1877,	To Cash of J. W. Pease, Collector,	520 00
27,	same,	440 81
Feb. 3,	O. W. Stevens, Collector	
	1875.	100 00
9,	John Watts, on note,	15 00
15,	F. P. & P. D. Hart, note and	
	interest,	9 27
17,	J. W. Pease Collector,	343 28
24,	C. B. Simpson,	63 82
27,	J. W. Pease, Collector,	650 00
28,	O. W. Stevens, Collector,	
	1875,	100 00
March 6,	John Watts, balance on note,	10 62
7,	J. W. Pease, Collector,	451 37
		<hr/>
		\$9,470 57

EXPENDITURES.

		Cr.
March 4, 1876,	Paid L. S. Gordon, abatement tax on	
	Lund farm,	13 00
4,	Dearborn & Chester, printing	
	Town Reports,	30 00
20,	O. W. Stevens, Overseer of Poor	
	balance due,	121 43
	J. P. Keyes, for sheep killed by	
	dogs,	4 00
	A. C. Hill, services as Auctioneer	
	and cash paid for postage,	15 52
April 18,	J. L. Davis,	20 00
29,	On Josiah Quincy's note,	1,000 00
May 2,	C. B. Simpson, for crackers, fish	
	etc. for auction,	7 50
	J. H. Dearborn, for posters and	
	express,	4 00
	O. D. Doe, taking care of tomb,	5 00
	J. L. Dearborn, services as audi-	
	tor,	2 00
	J. W. Peppard to pay insurance	
	on school house district No. 6.	40 00
	O. W. Stevens, Overseer of Poor,	228 00
	" " " " " "	
	to pay board of Lydia A. Weston	
	at Asylum to April 30, 1876,	53 80

May 2, 1876,	Paid O. W. Stevens, Collector for abate- ment of S. Adams, taxes for '75	7 28
	same for abatement A. Tyman's tax of 1875,	15 20
	J. W. Pease, for over tax,	1 80
	S. Adams, school house tax dis- trict No. 4,	30 00
	C. Spaulding, school house tax dis- trict No. 3,	50 00
	B. W. Sanborn & Co., for station- ery &c,	13 40
	J. L. Davis, part for services as Se- lectmen,	10 00
	O. D. Doe, part for services as Se- lectman,	25 00
	Henry Levoy,	90
Oct. 25,	County tax,	856 07
	B. W. Sanborn & Co., bill station- ery &c,	3 49
	E. S. Chandler, abatement poll tax, 1876,	1 80
	Mrs. Abbie Hutchins over tax on Otis Allen, land to date,	10 00
	J. W. Pease, for cash paid for tax bills,	2 50
	B. F. Sanborn, balance due services on Town Farm,	30 00
Nov. 7,	Ira Varney, services as Constable to date,	6 00
	H. E. Elliott, mistake in tax,	1 80
	M. H. Kelley, over tax by mistake,	19 00
Jan. 1, 1877.	State tax,	904 00
	S. Adams, balance school house tax, district No. 4,	5 00
	Gilman Marsh, over tax,	1 80
	Joseph Abbott, abatement dog tax,	1 00
	G. W. Cotton, " poll and school house poll tax district No. 6,	2 20
	A. Eastman abatement poll, 1875,	1 90
	C. Spaulding school house tax, district No. 3,	61 00
	L. Merrill. bill school books, pow- der and fuse,	2 67
	C. B. Woodward & Co., abatement of tax on last blocks, taxes to B. C. & M. R. & H. B. Simp- son for 1875 & 1876	19 50

	Paid Guy A. Clifford, abatement poll tax	1 80
	S. E. Ingalls, abatement for over tax on wood,	2 20
	D. D. Keniston, " poll tax	1 80
	Timothy Harris, for watering trough for 1875-6	5 00
	School District No. 1,	78 20
	2,	205 15
	3,	126 49
	4,	156 59
	5,	117 07
	6,	344 20
	7,	183 91
	8,	122 52
	9,	88 49
	11,	96 18
	A. M. Buzzell, one sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
	S. R. Chase, abatement tax on horse lost,	1 06
	O. W. Stevens, Collector 1875, abatement of taxes on the book,	24 53
	S. W. Avery, balance due Andrew Avery,	8 95
	W. A. Burns, money expened for water on the Common,	11 92
	Otis W. Greeley, for Police badges,	75
	Concord Savings Bank, abatement of tax.	2 70
	A. S. Craig, abatement tax for 1873,	2 10
	J. W. Pease, Collector, abatement tax on Town Farm,	38 34
	S. D. Baker, services as School Committee, and two days as Moderator,	55 00
	A. J. Stevens, services as Town Clerk and cash paid express &c.	50 00
March 1,	Otis Whitney, note and interest,	551 02
	" " services as Treas- urer and cash paid,	52 50
6,	C. B. Simpson services as Select- man,	83 60
	O. D. Doe, " " "	38 60
2,	Balance on Josiah Quincy's note,	800 00
6,	G. C. Jones, for driving hearse 14 times, use of Hall, Room &c.	61 65
	J. M. Twombly, abatement tax, on horse lost,	72

March 6,	Paid L. S. Gordon, abatement tax on female dog,	2 00
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Highways and Bridges.

Paid John Watts, work on highway to date,		10 52
John Collins,	"	1 50
J. J. Doe,	"	2 00
R. A. Marston,	"	1 50
J. P. Keyes,	"	3 92
A. F. Bailey,	"	1 00
J. A. Bradley,	"	3 38
Charles Pease, damage in consequence of highway not broken		1 50
D. B. Elliott, breaking highway to date,		8 50
Mahurin Haines,	"	11 59
Daniel Elliott,	"	10 00
C. D. Greeley,	"	12 00
Geo. F. Blake,	"	15 00
W. S. Hutchins,	"	24 00
Frank Avery,	"	18 50
J. M. Twombly,	"	15 00
M. H. Kelley,	"	12 50
J. W. Pease,	"	29 50
B. M. Craig, work on highway,		2 27
" " " "	Dist. No. 8,	4 25
A. R. Marston,	"	3 30
T. G. Stevens,	"	1 80
A. Tyman	"	5 00
T. S. Simpson,	"	24 96
S. C. Morse,	"	3 00
G. W. Hutchins,	"	10 72
S. Willoughby,	"	15 45
Wm. C. Buzzell,	"	16 50
W. S. Learned,	"	1 90
F. A. Atwood,	"	4 70
O. C. Whicher,	"	1 75
W. S. Emerson,	"	1 20
D. Abbott, use of water trough,		3 00
C. H. Elliott, work on Highway,		8 65
G. M. Stevens,	"	3 30
J. W. Pease,	"	1 65

S. D. Abbott, blacksmith bill,	2 85
Chas. Avery, work on highway,	9 00
C. D. Kelley	3 30
O. S. Hall,	6 00
G. R. Whicher,	4 47
L. F. Lawrence,	55 47
S. H. Brocklebank,	3 07
Leonard Sargent,	3 00
John Watts.	3 25
G. W. Hutchins,	2 00
Frank Avery,	12 34
Daniel Avery,	7 72
J. H. Haines,	3 00
Jacob Straw,	5 00
B. F. Mead,	13 15
J. D. Hooper,	2 85
" " "	9 60
G. C. Jones,	11 00
George Parker,	1 50
C. D. Greeley,	6 75
Henry Keyes,	3 90
B. F. Sanborn,	6 82
U. S. Hutchins,	4 50
A. W. Young,	3 00
E. O. Spaulding,	10 47
J. J. Doe,	3 67
G. W. Merrill,	3 00
N. S. Shaw,	11 00
C. N. French,	6 00
" " " for breaking highway last winter,	17 59
Wm. McLane, work on highway,	8 68
Henry Morrill,	1 50
Lewis Loveland,	4 50
S. Chapman,	75
E. H. Berry,	1 42
James Moses,	6 00
Willard Currier,	45
J. C. Keyes,	4 93
Joseph Hutchins,	11 50
C. R. Hutchins,	10 50
E. H. Elliott,	2 78
E. H. & J. B. Elliott,	64 82
J. B. Elliott,	93 21
Daniel Elliott,	2 00
H. R. Ford repairing M. Kelley's wagon,	3 00
O. E. Simpson, work on highway,	5 70
B. W. Davis,	3 00
J. P. Burnham,	7 50
Harry Kimball,	1 35

A. R. Marston, work on highway,	4 00
F. O. Boyd, "	3 00
Luther Powers, "	2 70
T. P. Smith, "	23 01
Mahurin Haines, "	15 85
B. H. Merrill, "	15 15
Samuel Herbert, "	District No. 4, 5 40
Mrs M J Farnsworth "	2 50
Arch Marston, "	3 00
S. J. Keniston, "	2 55
G. W. Webber, "	3 75
T. S. Simpson, "	12 47
Russell Jones, "	1 20
Elbridge Avery, "	1 20
J. W. Burnham, "	3 88
J. A. Colburn, "	4 70
J. P. Morrill, "	4 20
J. R. Swain, "	5 60
Z. Webber, "	2 10
B. A. Hall, "	48 54
C. H. Elliott for plank &c.	15 23
" " " " building bank wall,	69 00
G. W. Simpson work on highway,	8 25
M. H. Kelley, breaking highway last winter,	12 50
" " " work on highway,	9 45
A. Tondreau, keeping his road in repair for the year	10 00
Charles Pease, work on highway,	5 65
C. Spalding, " and plank,	22 62
" " 500 feet plank to C. A. Holden,	5 00
U. S. Hutchins, work on highway,	4 50
U. K. Hutchins, "	26 21
T. S. Simpson, " and plank,	18 11
W. W. Fales, Jr., "	22 29
C. R. Emerton, "	7 00
C. E. Merrill, "	14 16
A. Tyman "	3 37
J. M. Keniston "	3 00
L. Morrill, "	75
C. F. Bailey, "	1 72
Geo. Hickok "	2 25
Fred Glover, "	1 50
G. C. Spaulding "	16 30
L. Spaulding, "	6 15
S. E. Merrill, "	5 35
C. Palmer, "	3 22
A. T. Weeks, "	7 60
Gardner Avery "	19 72
C. A. Holden, "	20 70

C. C. Smart, work on highway,	5 00
J. A. Bradley, "	13 61
Frank Bradley, "	6 08
Frank Avery, "	1 42
G. C. Gillett, "	10 50
L. F. Lawrence, "	6 00
G. W. Blake, "	35 90
J. P. Keyes, "	6 35
S. W. Avery, " police etc	8 00
C. W. Herbert, "	16 55
S. H. Quincy, "	5 00
B. M. Craig, "	2 55
T. G. Stevens, "	1 35
S. R. Chase, "	1 50
John French, "	10 24
C. H. Perkins, "	1 50
S. French, "	7 25
J. M. Twombly, "	16 35
J. L. Emerton, keeeping his road in repair for the year,	80
A. H. Craig, for water trough,	3 00
Clinton French, work on highway,	2 25
M. S. Morrill, "	3 00
D. F. Hall, "	4 35
H. H. Haines, "	3 00
George Payne, "	3 00
A. M. Buzzell, "	14 87
C. F. Sanborn, "	10 32
Cyrus Clifford, "	6 02
T. J. Adams, "	4 05
E. B. Ray, "	10 00
U. S. Hutchins, "	9 00
J. B. Hardy, "	7 50
C. F. Preston, "	1 50
H. K. Rogers, "	3 00
H. O. Nutting, "	6 00
B. D. Spalding, "	1 00
S. Milligan, "	2 40
F. S. McIntosh, "	9 56
Elizabeth Kelley taking down fence, etc.,	4 00
W. W. Fales, Jr., breaking highway,	9 29
Joseph Wallace, work on highway,	13 50
Nathan Collins, "	4 80
Jacob Straw, "	3 00
A. C. Hill, "	4 50
W. W. Fales, "	53 51
Elhanan Elliott, breaking road last year,	13 00
A. Tondreau, work on road,	11 00

S. F. Blodgett, work on road,	4 50
S. D. Abbott, blacksmithing,	1 00
J. C. Atwood, work on highway,	5 70
A. T. Weeks, damage to plow,	2 48
M. L. Merrill, work on highway,	15 90
H. M. Swain, "	1 20
S. Simpson, "	3 00
J. Davis, "	4 65
John Collins "	3 45
G. C. Gillett, "	4 80
J. E. Pillsbury, "	9 30
Mahurin Haines, "	7 50
E. O. Spaulding, breaking road 1875,	38 00
Frank Avery, part pay breaking highway,	21 00
T. S. Simpson, "	11 00
S. Willoughby, "	3 00
Gardner Avery, "	11 00
C. E. Merrill, "	2 50
A. Tondreau, "	27 00
J. P. Keyes, "	49 00
C. D. Greeley, "	7 00
C. A. Holden, "	31 00
A. Colburn, "	8 00
A. M. Buzzell, "	7 50
E. G. Doe, "	19 75
U. S. Hutchins, "	17 50
W. C. Buzzell, work on highway,	3 00
A. C. Hall, "	75
Leonard Morrill, "	83
J. M. Clark, "	23 95
Ira Avery, "	75
G. C. Spaulding, "	8 00
B. F. Brown, lumber,	1 00
H. M. Swain, stone for highway,	5 00
B. H. Merrill, work on "	1 95
J. R. Payne, "	5 62
Fred Glover, "	1 50
S. E. Merrill, plank for "	2 94
Reuben Robie work on "	7 05
N. S. Shaw, "	7 82
J. M. Twombly, "	1 75
L. S. Gordon, "	2 12
Wm. Keyes, "	1 28
M. S. Webber, damage to harness,	1 00
C. E. Merrill, part day for breaking highway,	17 50
C. C. Chapman " " " "	10 00
O. D. Doe, work on highway, taking care of tomb,	29 65
C. B. Simpson, " and cash paid,	10 70
E. P. Chapman "	1 50

T. S. Simpson, work on highway,	1 80
A. Twombly, " "	1 50
E. O. Spaulding " "	75
A. Tyman, breaking highway,	7 00
C. N. French, taking down and putting up fence,	2 50

Recapitulation.

March 9, 1877, Amount received,	\$9,470 57
Amount of various claims, \$6,946 71	
Highways and bridges, 2,123 00	
	<u>\$9,069 71</u>
Balance in treasury,	\$400 86

Liabilities.

March 1, 1877, Due on Josiah Quincy's	
note dated June 10, '73, \$1,103 18	
" " " Due on J. W. Peppard's	
note dated Oct. 2, 1875, 543 25	
" " " Due on breaking highway, 200 00	
	<u>\$1,846 43</u>

Assets.

March 9, 1877, Due from H. W. Herbert,	
collector 1874,	50 00
O. W. Stevens, col. 1875,	78 00

March 9, 1877, J. W. Pease, col. 1876,	400 00
Cash in treasury,	400 86

\$928 86

March, 1, 1877, Notes and interest due the town on sale of Town Farm to March 1, '77	
Note dated Apr. 20, 1876, signed by John M. Clark, payable 1 year from date with int.	788 75
Do. payable 2 years from date with interest,	788 75
Do. payable 3 years from date with interest,	788 75
Do. payable 4 years from date with interest,	788 75
Do. payable 5 years from date with interest,	684 05
Do. payable 6 years from date with interest,	684 05
Do. payable 7 years from date with interest,	736 17

\$5,259 27

Notes due for property sold on Town Farm:	
T. S. Simpson and M. M. Emerson, note and int.	32 06
S. D. Abbott and D. Abbott,	7 71
George D. Keniston,	11 49
T. G. Stevens and B. M. Craig,	7 66
D. and A. Kent, and G. D. Keniston,	14 14
J. A. Bradley,	5 09
Samuel Milligan,	34 23
Charles C. Craig,	8 76
S. F. Blodgett and C. A. Holden,	12 33
B. H. Merrill and M. L. Merrill,	51 10
Herbert Balch and Emily Balch,	158 95
J. L. Davis and C. A. Holden,	7 88

March 1, 1877, David Sherburn and Os-		
car Blake,	31	55
Charles E. Merrill and		
S. R. Chase,	6	31
Ira C. Mitchell and Is-		
rael Mitchell,	18	73
Charles A. Holden and		
J. L. Davis,	17	53
Oliver D. Doe,	18	03
Andrew Tyman and		
G. E. Greeley, bal-		
ance due	71	78
Charles Spalding,	184	37
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		\$699 70
Due on outstanding		
taxes,		528 00
In treasury,		400 86
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		6,887 83
Indebtedness of Town,		1,846 43
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In favor " "		\$5,041 40

A true statement of the Town Treasury March 9, 1877.

OTIS WHITNEY, *Treasurer.*

I have examined the foregoing accounts and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

J. L. DEARBORN, *Auditor.*

Rumney, March 9, 1877.

REPORT OF OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

EXPENDITURES.

For the Year Ending March 1, 1877.

Paid J. P. Keyes, for making cider,	\$	3	40
G. C. Spaulding, blacksmithing,		1	10
L. C. Payne, stove casting,		1	35
J. W. Peppard, making hay-rack and lumber for			
the same,		4	00
E. W. Jeffers, 10 hens and work in 1872,		9	44
J. A. Colburn, meat for S. C. Morse,		2	00
B. M. Craig, for beans		1	75

J. Abbott, bosom for B. Page,	25
Webster, Russell & Co., for goods,	2 45
John Watts, for quilt,	1 00
C. R. Emerton, house rent for S. C. Morse,	4 00
Dearborn & Merrill, goods for Town Farm,	5 91
Mrs. Bradley, work at Poor Farm at time of the auction,	1 50
Henry H. Haines, for board of Charles Haines,	104 00
S. Milligan, taking care of two tramps,	1 00
William Webster, opening and filling grave for E. Harvell,	2 50
D. L. Simpson, medical services,	6 00
Daniel Darling, " "	19 75
J. Abbott, for Osgood,	55
Webster, Russell & Co., for Mrs. Blake,	2 75
Asylum for the Insane, for board of L. A. Weston,	53 80
Lyman Merrill, goods for S. C. Morse,	33 61
J. A. Colburn, meat for S. C. Morse,	4 40
Lyman Merrill, goods for Moody Blake,	3 00
" " " " V. H. Rogers.	2 51
Charles Spalding " " P. Lafrance	9 18
" " and Frank Willoughby for transient	28 62
D. D. Keniston, board of Wm. Smith,	15 00
B. F. Hutchins, " " Mrs. G. Blake,	41 00
M. H. Kelly, " " Paul Chase,	111 00
Mrs. Annis, for taking care of Emma Snow,	5 00
" Emerson " " " " "	1 50
" Milligan, " " " " " "	3 00
Jacob Straw, board of Mary Ellis,	36 00
O. W. Stevens, cash paid out,	13 85
" " " use of team,	7 75
" " " taking four affidavits,	2 00
" " " paper and stamps,	1 00
" " " services as Overseer of the Poor,	49 75
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	\$597 73

RECEIPTS

For the Year Ending March 1, 1877.

April 25, 1876	Cash of Town Treasurer	53 80
May 3,	Order on County Treasurer, from Graf- ton County Commissioners for sup- port of paupers,	256 53
August 13,	Cash from town of Pembroke, in case of L. A. Weston,	80 13
November 8,	Order on County Treasurer,	161 24
		<hr/>
		\$551 70

Amount paid out,	\$597 73
“ Received,	551 70

Balance due Overseer,	\$46 03
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OLIVER W. STEVENS, *Overseer of the Poor.*
 Rumney, March 1, 1877.

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing accounts and find the same duly vouched and correctly cast and a balance in favor of the Overseer of forty-six dollars and three cents (\$46.03)

J. L. DEARBORN, *Auditor.*
 Rumney, March 1, 1877.

TABULAR REPORT OF SUPR. SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Terms.</i>	<i>Name of Teacher.</i>	<i>Weeks School</i>	<i>No. Scholars</i>	<i>Average Attendance.</i>	<i>No. in Arithmetic.</i>	<i>Grammar.</i>	<i>Geography.</i>	<i>Reading.</i>	<i>History.</i>	<i>Bookkeeping</i>	<i>Penmanship</i>	<i>Composition</i>	<i>Drawing.</i>	<i>No. bet. 5 and 15 not attend</i>
No. 1,	1st	Mrs. B. D. Colburn,	12	7	5	4	1	17	24	7		4			3
No. 2,	{ 1st	Miss E. S. Wyat,	12	24	22	21	15	17	27		1	21			
	{ 2d	" " "	12	28	26	24	14	17	27		4	24			
No. 3,	{ 1st	Mrs. B. D. Colburn,	12	18	14	12	1	6	18			12			5
	{ 2d	" " "	13	17	14	12	2	5	17			12			
	{ 1st	Miss S. E. Greene,	8	17	16	9	4	9	17	2		9	2		2
No. 4,	{ 1st	" " "	8	15	13	11	4	9	15			13	3		
	{ 2d	Fred S. Hall,	6	10	8	7	3	7	10			4	4		
	{ 3d	Miss S. C. Simpson,	8	55	23	16	11	8	25	1	1	16	11	8	
No. 5,	{ 1st	" " "	9	22	19	11	7	7	22	1		11	7	7	
	{ 2d	" " "	11	29	25	23	8	18	29			21	7	9	3
	{ 3d	" " "	11	29	25	23	20	23	29	4	2	32	20		
No. 6,	{ 1st	Miss M. E. Merrill,	8	32	27	32	26	24	32	3	4	32	24		
<i>Gram-</i>	{ 2d	" " "	8	33	30	33	24	14	33		3	33			
<i>mar.</i>	{ 3d	" " "	8	33	30	33	24	14	33		3	33			
No. 6,	{ 1st	Miss C. F. Elliott,	8	34	31	24	4	15	34			21			1
<i>Priv-</i>	{ 2d	" " "	8	82	29	22	2	16	32			23	2		
<i>mary.</i>	{ 3d	" " "	8	19	16	15	1	10	19			18			
No. 7,	{ 1st	Miss A. W. Chase,	10	15	13	15	4	13	15	1	3	13		4	1
	{ 2d	" " "	14	17	17	20	4	18	20			16		7	
No. 8,	{ 1st	John L. Davis, 13, 1-10	15	23	15	15	1	20	23			13			
No. 9,	{ 1st	Miss C. B. Kelley,	8	8	5	4	1	3	7	1		4			
	{ 1st	Mrs. F. E. Merriam,	8	10	8	8	1	2	10			8			
No. 11,	{ 1st	Mrs. C. S. Coffin,	10	7	6	5	2	3	7	2		7	2		

SCHOOL REPORT.

Fellow Citizens:—In presenting my Report of the schools for the past year, allow me to congratulate you upon the success which has attended the efforts of all concerned and interested in the cause of education.

To a judicious selection of teachers, has been supplemented an evident desire for improvement on the part of the pupils, and a greater degree of solicitude for beneficial results on the part of the Prudential Committees and parents. We could not be disappointed in the standing obtained, when we consider the means and influences brought to bear upon our schools.

The results of the division of the money received from the State, appropriated to the use of schools, equally among the districts, are seen in the increase: efficiency and length of schools in the smaller districts. While it is confidently believed that no injustice has been done to the larger districts by this method, the smaller ones have been largely benefited.

The terms of schools in districts Nos. 1, 8, 9, and 11, have been lengthened nearly or quite one-half, while in the other districts, the terms have not fallen much, if any, short of former years.

The same method of division is earnestly recommended for the ensuing year.

It is no source of pride to your Committee to be obliged from year to year, to report to the Supt. of Public Instruction the fact that, out of ten school houses in town, three are unfit for school purposes.

Permit me to recommend to districts No. 8, 9 and 11, a visit to the neat little school house in district No. 3. A judicious outlay of less than \$200 has changed this house from a bleak, desolate den, to the most cheerful cosy and comfortable school house in town.

It is poor economy to confine our children to the repulsive and uninhabitable buildings called by courtesy *school-houses*, when we reflect for a moment upon the influence of such surroundings upon the health and minds of the scholars. Let us smooth as much as we may the "steep and rugged path up the hill of science" by furnishing good teachers and comfortable and attractive school rooms.

The following items condensed from my tabular report to the town, and my statistical report to the Supt. of Public Instruction, may be of interest as showing what has been done in the several school districts the past year.

DISTRICT No. 1.

This district has had twelve weeks of school, taught by Mrs. B. D. Colburn, a teacher of much experience and superior qualifications for her office.

The same teacher was employed for the year previous; and the Committee evinced sound judgment in securing her services the second year.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Twenty-four weeks, taught by the favorite teacher of the preceding year, Miss Eva S. Wyatt.

Under Miss Wyatt's instruction, and the fostering care of the Prudential Committee and parents, this school has attained a position in the front rank. The appearance of the school room on examination day evinced the fact that the scholars united a love of the beautiful with the useful, while the examination itself showed that this exhibition of taste had in no way interfered with severer discipline and study. Long may this state of things continue !

DISTRICT No. 3.

Two terms, giving twenty-five weeks of school, both taught by Mrs. B. D. Colburn. Mrs. Colburn sustained her well-earned reputation, and the progress made by the scholars was an additional evidence, if indeed any be needed, of the wisdom of the Committee and patrons in providing an attractive school house and securing the continuous services of the same teacher.

DISTRICT No 4.

Two terms of eight weeks each, were taught by Miss S. E. Green, and a winter term of six weeks by Mr. Fred S. Hall. Neither of these teachers had ever taught before, yet their schools were highly creditable considered as first efforts. Should they continue in the profession, they will experience no difficulty in attaining to the front rank.

This district has done itself credit by building a neat serviceable house, and evincing a disposition to further the ends of education.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Three terms, twenty-eight weeks. Miss S. C. Simpson, the teacher for the previous year, was continued in office, and the results show that the interests of the district sustained no loss by this course.

Rapid progress was made by the smaller scholars, and the winter term brought out a class of young men, who showed much talent and a corresponding degree of proficiency in their studies.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Primary—Three terms of eight weeks each, under the instruction of their veteran teacher, Miss C. F. Elliott.

It is enough to say that Miss Elliott has sustained herself, and has this year, as always before, done her work well.

We should look upon the retirement of this teacher from the Primary school in No. 6, as a district, if not a public calamity.

No. 6 Grammar School—Same length of school as the Primary, and equally as successful, under the administration of Miss M. Emma Merrill.

It is within my province to record the fact, that this school has made more progress during the past year, than any former one since my connection with the schools.

While individual terms have not been inferior to any one term of the present year, they have been isolated, and their influence in a great degree, lost by the "one term system," and its disadvantages.

The Grammar School has taken a step in advance, and although not yet at the head, it occupies a much better position than it did one year ago.

Another year under Miss Merrill's instruction, will be the surest way to bring it to its proper place in the list of schools. I cannot let this occasion pass without censuring in the severest terms those parents who are so unmindful of their duty to the school, to the public, and to themselves, as to encourage insubordination to the teacher and also the rules of the schools, on the part of their children.

This is the fruitful source of nearly all the mischief that paralyzes the best efforts of the teacher, and calls into requisition the use of an authority, the too frequent exercise of which can but be detrimental in its effect upon the school.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Two terms of twenty-four weeks, taught by Miss A. W. Chase. Miss Chase is a successful teacher, and has performed her work to the satisfaction of the patrons, and the benefit of the scholars.

The improvement of the school was marked, and especially in Map drawing and Geography.

By the generosity and the ability of the scholars and teacher, this school has a series of Outline Maps, executed by the scholars, which is priceless.

Taking the ages of the pupils into consideration, No. 7 is inferior to no school in Rumney.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

This school reserved its money for one last grand effort, and secure the services of Mr. J. L. Davis, for a full term of thirteen weeks. Mr. Davis' exertions to bring something from almost nothing, were untiring. To say that he was successful in this, would be to say that he accomplished in one term, the labor of years. What mortal man could do, Mr. Davis did: but he could no more make bricks without straw, than could the ancient Israelites. A supreme indifference seems to have taken possession of the people of this district, in regard to their school and the consequent education of their children.

With a school term of thirteen weeks, as their entire years' privilege, and with the ablest and most experienced teacher that could

be employed, their record of attendance is unworthy of any community. With twenty-three registered scholars, the average attendance is only fifteen, and for 995 days of attendance there are 502 days of absence: and more than this, and worse if possible, is the fact that of the 22 children in town, between the ages of five and fifteen not attending any school, seven or nearly one-third are reported from this district. An attempt to put in force the law for compulsory attendance only revealed the fact that the district would be mulcted in costs with no satisfactory result.

DISTRICT No. 9.

One term of fifteen weeks taught by Miss C. Belle Kelley. It was Miss Kelley's first term.

The school was smaller and the house one of the relics of antiquity, sombre as the tomb, and cheerless as the graveyard. With such surroundings the only wonder is that she could infuse any life into her scholars, or preserve her own.

It requires no prophetic vision, to predict for this school a succession of teachers. And yet the fault is not at their door entirely. With only eight registered scholars, and an inventory as small in comparison, this as well as its neighbor district, No. 11, would, without the help of the school money received from the State, as divided this year, and the biennial division of the dog tax, be comparatively schoolless.

Favored citizens of the wealthier districts, do you grudge them this pittance by the aid of which they are enabled to give their scholars one-half the advantages your own enjoy?

Miss Kelley is a young lady of fine intelligence, good education, and prepossessing manner. She is fitting herself for the teacher's arduous work, at the Normal School, and we have no hesitation in recommending her to the consideration of Prudential Committees.

DISTRICT No. 11.

Summer term of eight weeks, taught by Mrs. E. F. Merriam, and a fall term by Mr. C. S. Coffin.

My remarks relating to the school house and the school in district No. 9. apply equally well to this district, and need not be repeated. Of the teachers, it may be said, "They have done what they could." Of the scholars, that they have made the most of their opportunities.

To the parents I would say make your school houses more inviting, take more interest in the welfare of your school and fulfill the duties you owe to the "Children whom God hath given you."

S. D. BAKER,

School Committee.

